

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 is currently amended. Claims 3, 4 and 26 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application, as amended.

1. (Currently amended) A polypeptide having antimicrobial activity, comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1, ~~or a fragment thereof of at least 18 amino acids having antimicrobial activity:~~

G-X₁-X₂-X₃-X₄-X₅-X₆-X₇-X₈-X₉-X₁₀-X₁₁-X₁₂-X₁₃-X₁₄-X₁₅-X₁₆-Z;

wherein

X₁ = L, I, W or M;

X₂ = L, F, W or V;

X₃ = S, G, K, T, R, I, N, D or E;

X₄ = K, T, F, I, R, M, L or S;

X₅ = L or I;

X₆ = K, G, R, M or E;

X₇ = K, S, I, R, T or M;

X₈ = A, K, T, N, R or E;

X₉ = A, G, S, I, L, T, V, M or W;

X₁₀ = S, R, K or E;

X₁₁ = K, M, R, H, I, N or T;

X₁₂ = A, V, I, L, Y, F or T;

X₁₃ = L, A, G, C, F, V or W;

X₁₄ = K, Q, A, S, R or E;

X₁₅ = H, G, N, R, S, M, I, V or D;

X₁₆ = V, I, A or F;

Z = ~~X₁₇~~ or X₁₇-R-W-L; wherein X₁₇ = F, L, R, A, G, V, Y, C or P;

and wherein the amino acids making up the polypeptide are independently selected from D or L forms.

2. (Original.) A polypeptide having antimicrobial activity, consisting of an amino acid sequence which consists of 18 amino acids and which is extended by the amino acid

sequence R-W-L; wherein the amino acids making up the polypeptide are independently selected from D or L forms.

3-4. (Canceled)

5. (Withdrawn) A polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence which encodes for the polypeptide defined in claim 1.

6. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid construct comprising the nucleotide sequence defined in claim 5 operably linked to one or more control sequences that direct the production of the polypeptide in a suitable host.

7. (Withdrawn) A recombinant expression vector comprising the nucleic acid construct defined in claim 6.

8. (Withdrawn) A recombinant host cell comprising the nucleic acid construct defined in claim 6.

9. (Withdrawn) A method for producing a polypeptide as defined in claim 1, the method comprising:

- (a) cultivating a recombinant host cell as defined in claim 10 under conditions conducive for production of the polypeptide; and
- (b) recovering the polypeptide.

10. (Previously presented) A composition comprising an antimicrobial polypeptide as defined in claim 1.

11. (Original.) The composition of claim 10, which further comprises an additional biocidal agent.

12. (Previously presented) A method for killing or inhibiting growth of microbial cells comprising contacting the microbial cells with an antimicrobial polypeptide as defined in claim 1.

13. (Previously presented) A detergent composition comprising a surfactant and an antimicrobial polypeptide as defined in claim 1.

14. (Previously presented) An antimicrobial polypeptide as defined in claim 1 for use as a medicament.

15. (Previously presented) An antimicrobial polypeptide as defined in claim 1 for use as an antimicrobial veterinarian or human therapeutic or prophylactic agent.

16-17. (Canceled.)

18. (Withdrawn) A transgenic plant, plant part or plant cell, which has been transformed with a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide having antimicrobial activity as defined in claim 1.

19-20. (Canceled.)

21. (Withdrawn) An animal feed additive comprising

- (a) at least one antimicrobial polypeptide as defined in claim 1; and
- (b) at least one fat soluble vitamin, and/or
- (c) at least one water soluble vitamin, and/or
- (d) at least one trace mineral, and/or
- (e) at least one macro mineral.

22. (Withdrawn) The animal feed additive of claim 21, which further comprises phytase, xylanase, galactanase, and/or beta-glucanase.

26. (Canceled)